Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s (VDOT) design public hearing for proposed corridor improvements along Route 17 at various locations to improve efficiency of the corridor through the Town of Tappahannock.

This design public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to provide VDOT comments and/or suggestions on the proposed improvements. VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

A comment sheet is included in this meeting handout and your input is encouraged. All verbal and written comments received on these projects will be included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties. VDOT staff will address questions and concerns raised as a result of this meeting before the projects are presented to VDOT’s District Project Development Engineer for approval.

Cost - $1 million

Purpose – To improve efficiency and safety along Route 17 through the Town of Tappahannock.

Improvements –
(1) Route 17 and Route 360 (Queen Street) – reconfiguration of the intersection;
(2) Route 17 and Route 725 (Winston Road) – crossover conversion to eliminate left turns out of Route 725; and
(3) Route 17 northbound and Route 17 southbound shoulder improvements between Route 1030 (Granary Road) and Route 698.
VDOT’s Fredericksburg District Environmental Office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinities; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the projects during their development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a draft Programmatic Categorical Exclusion has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. The NEPA document includes information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the environmental documentation.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of the environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT’s specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

Representatives from VDOT's Environmental section are available to answer questions.

### Project Description

This project will include the following improvements:

1. **Rt. 17 and Rt. 360 (Queen Street) Intersection**
   - Reconfiguration of existing pavement to increase the right turn radius from Queen Street to westbound Church Lane. Reconstruction of entrances to Essex County’s parking lot to limit eastbound traffic queueing. The pedestrian crossing will be relocated and rebuilt with Americans with Disabilities Act compliant curb ramps on each end.

2. **Rt. 17 and Rt. 725 (Winston Road) Intersection**
   - Modification to prohibit left turns onto southbound Route 17 from Route 725. Modifications to the existing curb will better align and position turn movements and a median island in the crossover will be constructed to allow only left turns, both northbound and southbound.

3. **Route 17 NB and Route 17SB**
   - Pave existing graded shoulder for approximately one mile in either direction (3500’ of Northbound Route 17 and 2500’ of Southbound Route 17).
   - This project will be constructed in accordance with VDOT’s current road standards and specifications to comply with federal and state regulations pertaining to public welfare and safety.
   - The construction will be performed in such a manner that traffic will be maintained with a minimum of inconvenience to the traveling public.

   After the project is complete, VDOT will maintain the roads.

### Estimated Project Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost of Projects</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Engineering</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right of Way</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$675,000</td>
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</tbody>
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### Anticipated Schedule

- **Design Public Hearing** – May 7, 2019
- **Comment Period** – May 7 – 18, 2019
- **Right of Way** – June - 2020
- **Advertise Project** – August - 2021
- **Construction Begins** – November - 2021
- **Complete Construction** – May - 2022

### Environmental Review

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The following schedule has been proposed:

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### Civil Rights

VDOT ensures non-discrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT’s Civil Rights Division at 540-899-4562, TTY/TDD 711.

### Right of Way

The construction of this project will not require any displacement of families, businesses or non-profit organizations.

As we further develop and finalize the design of the project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing plans. The property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way acquisition is discussed in VDOT’s brochure entitled “Right of Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants.” Copies of this booklet are available from a VDOT right of way agent. After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.

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